
Public Utilities Commission

Minutes of Open Meeting Held on October 7, 2020

An Open Meeting of the Public Utilities Commission (Commission or PUC) was held on Wednesday, October 7, 2020 at 2:00 P.M. in Hearing Room A, 89 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick, Rhode Island to discuss, deliberate, and/or vote on the following dockets

In attendance: Chairman Ronald Gerwatowski, Todd Bianco, Cynthia Wilson-Frias, Alan Nault and Luly Massaro. Remotely: Commissioner Marion Gold, Commissioner Abigail Anthony, Patricia Lucarelli and John Harrington.

- I. Chairman Gerwatowski called the Open Meeting to order at 1:00 P.M. A quorum was present.
- II. **Docket No. 4983 - The Narragansett Electric Co. d/b/a National Grid** – This docket relates to National Grid’s 2020 Renewable Energy Growth Program. National Grid submitted a request for approval of the Certificates of Eligibility (COE) for commercial scale and large scale projects that have been selected in the Company’s Second 2020 Open Enrollment for participation in the Renewable Energy Growth Program. Chairman Gerwatowski moved to accept the projects selected in the Second 2020 Open Enrollment. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gold and unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**
- III. **Docket No. 5067 - The Narragansett Electric Co. d/b/a National Grid** – National Grid submitted a request for approval of proposed changes to its Gas Customer Choice Program and the associated changes to the Company’s gas tariff, RIPUC NG-GAS No. 101. The Company is proposing modifications to its Customer Choice program to address two matters: (1) cost allocations amongst its capacity eligible customers; and (2) the need to enhance operational flexibilities via the pipeline assets physically released to Marketers. The Division filed a review memo and recommended approval. Direct Energy Business LLC’s submitted a Motion to Intervene. No opposition was received to Direct Energy’s motion. After review, the following motions were made:
 - a.) Chairman Gerwatowski moved to approve the motion to intervene of Direct Energy. Commissioner Anthony seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**
 - b.) Chairman Gerwatowski moved to conditionally approve the Company’s proposal to allocate a broader set of pipeline assets to marketers by making all significant capacity paths on Algonquin and Tennessee available to Marketers, whereby all Marketers will receive a pro-rata share of each capacity path including access to multiple deliveries points associated with each path. Commissioner Anthony seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

- c.) Chairman Gerwatowski moved to conditionally approve the Company’s proposal to eliminate the current pipeline capacity path preference methodology in which Marketers rank the paths identified by the Company as available to Marketers in order of preference, and the Company allocates accordingly. Commissioner Gold seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**
- d.) Chairman Gerwatowski moved to conditionally approve the Company’s proposal to eliminate the cost adjustment, i.e. surcharge/credit, that currently exists to reconcile the paths released to Marketers with the full supply portfolio. Commissioner Anthony seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

Approval of the Company’s proposal is conditional subject to Commission approval of a pending matter in the Company’s Distribution Adjustment Charge (DAC) in Docket 5040, related to certain gas supply arrangement costs in the DAC.

- IV. **Docket No. 4915 - The Narragansett Electric Co. d/b/a National Grid** – The Commission reviewed National Grid’s electric Infrastructure, Safety and Reliability Plan Reconciliation compliance filing submitted pursuant the Commission’s September 29, 2020 Open Meeting decision. The compliance filing results in a revenue requirement reduction of \$133,449. Find the compliance filing in order, Chairman Gerwatowski moved to approve the compliance filing. Commissioner Anthony seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**
- V. **Docket No. 5039 - The Narragansett Electric Co. d/b/a National Grid** - The Commission reviewed National Grid’s Renewable Energy Growth (RE Growth) Program Reconciliation compliance filing submitted pursuant to the Commission’s Open Meeting decision on September 29, 2020. The compliance filing reflects three adjustments to the revenue requirement that had been directed by the Commission. Finding the compliance filing in order, Chairman Gerwatowski moved to approve the compliance filing. Commissioner Gold seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**
- VI. **Renewable Energy Resource Eligibility Applications** – The PUC reviewed and ruled on the applications submitted in the following dockets:

Docket No. 5063 – Douglas Pike Solar, LLC’s application for eligibility of the Douglas Pike Solar generation unit, a 1.8 MW AC (2.71 MW DC) solar facility located in Burrillville, Rhode Island as a New Renewable Energy Resource. Chairman Gerwatowski moved to accept the PUC Consultant’s recommendation to conditionally approve the application. Commissioner Anthony seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

Docket No. 5064 – Mendon Road Solar, LLC’s application for eligibility of the Mendon Road Solar generation unit, a 0.900 MW AC solar facility located in Woonsocket, Rhode Island as a New Renewable Energy Resource. Chairman Gerwatowski moved to accept the PUC Consultant’s recommendation to conditionally approve the application. Commissioner Gold seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

Docket No. 5065 – Bald Hill Solar, LLC’s application for eligibility of the Bald Hill Solar unit, a 0.200 MW AC (0.249 MW DC) solar facility located in Hopkinton, Rhode Island as a New Renewable Energy Resource. Chairman Gerwatowski moved to accept the PUC Consultant’s recommendation to approve the application. Commissioner Gold seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

Docket No. 5045 – Trawl Works, LLC’s application for eligibility of the TrawlWorks DG Solar generation unit, a 0.3540 MW AC solar facility located in Narragansett, Rhode Island as a New Renewable Energy Resource. Chairman Gerwatowski moved to accept the PUC Consultant’s recommendation to approve the application. Commissioner Gold seconded the motion and the motion was unanimously passed. **Vote 3-0.**

- VII. There being no further business to consider, Chairman Gerwatowski adjourned the Open Meeting at 2:15 P.M. A video of the Open Meeting discussion can be accessed at <http://www.ustream.tv/channel/WqQyXw296dg>